



## THE WEEK IN WASHINGTON.

## Minor Matters of Interest in the Capital City.

**SUNDAY, FEB. 18.**—That the work of the Patent Office is less in arrears than at any time in the past seven or eight years is shown by a statement prepared by Assistant Commissioner Fisher. It shows that while seven years ago one division was between six and seven months in arrears, now the greatest arrearage in any division is four months. Then there were more than 10,000 applications for patents on hand, while the number pending is now about 6,500. The work of the office relating to designs and trademarks, of which there are only 53 of the former and 40 of the latter pending, is less than a month in arrears.

**MONDAY, FEB. 19.**—Anna Ella Carroll, a woman who was distinguished by her services to the country during the war, died in this city on the afternoon of Feb. 19. She was a daughter of ex-Gov. Thomas King Carroll of Maryland, and was born at Kingston Hill, Aug. 29, 1815. Miss Carroll was credited with having been the author of the change of plan on the part of President Lincoln, by which the armies of the Union were directed from the intended expedition down the Mississippi River and thence southward to the center of the Confederate power.

**TUESDAY, FEB. 20.**—The deposits of domestic gold bullion at the mints and assay offices of the United States during the year 1893 aggregated \$32,367,850, and the deposits for the calendar year 1893, \$36,056,390, showing a gain in the deposits of gold of domestic production in 1893 over that of 1892 of \$3,688,540. It is now estimated by the Bureau of the Mint that when the final figures are received covering the statistics for the production of gold in the United States for the calendar year 1893 an increase over that of 1892 of about \$4,000,000 will be shown.

**WEDNESDAY, FEB. 21.**—Twenty-five ladies, the remainder of the National Woman's Suffrage Convention, which has been in session in Washington for a week past, appeared before the House Judiciary Committee this morning to advocate a constitutional amendment for woman suffrage. Such a resolution had recently been rejected by the committee, but was reconsidered at the request of the ladies. Speeches were made by Miss Anthony and others. The Senate Committee on Woman Suffrage also heard speeches from the same company of ladies.

**THURSDAY, FEB. 22.**—Washington's Birthday was duly celebrated in this city by various patriotic and historical associations, and by a parade of the Fire Department and the District National Guard. At Mount Vernon the interior of the tomb was filled with palms and choice flowering plants. Among the flowers that rested upon the General's sarcophagus was a tulip, which was the gift of the General's daughter, Mrs. John Pickens, the daughter of the General's daughter, Mrs. John Pickens, the daughter of the General's daughter, Mrs. John Pickens.

**FRIDAY, FEB. 23.**—It was stated at the Agricultural Bureau today that the inquiry being made by the Department into the system of road management and road-making methods in the United States is meeting with favorable results. Among other things the cooperation of practically all of the principal railroads in reducing freight rates on road materials has been secured. Recent road laws of various States have been exhausted, and a reprint has been ordered. Information is being gathered for further publication, for which many applications are now on file.

**SATURDAY, FEB. 24.**—Gen. Daniel E. Sickles will continue to draw his salaries as a retired Army officer and a member of the House of Representatives. Comptroller Mansur, of the Treasury Department, today rendered his decision. In brief the Comptroller's decision is that any officer on the retired list of the Army may hold any other office without the gift of the Government, except that of a member of the House of Representatives or a Senator. After laying down this principle, Comptroller Mansur completely upsets it by stating that neither a Senator nor a Congressman is constituted the sole judge of the return, qualifications and election of its members, and in view of this constitutional privilege he is powerless to act in the case.

**CHAT OF THE CORRIDORS.**  
Hon. Galusha A. Grow, the new Congressman-at-large, elect, sent a bombshell into the Democratic camp here last week by rolling up in Pennsylvania the astonishing plurality of nearly 180,000 votes. The Republicans made an almost clean sweep of the Counties, only 11 of the 67 Counties giving a plurality for Hancock, Democrat. Those remaining in the Democratic column show greatly-reduced pluralities.

Representative Blanchard went to Louisiana last week to see if he cannot capture the Senatorship. No definite news has been received from him since his departure, but telegrams which have come to members of the delegation from other sources indicate that there is a strong possibility of Mr. Blanchard's appointment.

The idea of making Senatorial elections popular is gaining greatly in favor. In several States the party leaders and newspapers are urging that candidates for the United States Senate be named by the voters. The most recent of these proposals is that of the Illinois Legislature, which has adopted this plan in nominating Hon. John M. Palmer. The Illinois Republicans have been holding to the old method. But this year they find themselves almost a unit in favor of the convention plan, and it is easily possible that the successor to Senator Cullom will be chosen in this manner.

Senator Chandler has introduced in the Senate a joint resolution of remarkable character. It advocates spelling reform, covers two or three pages, and has a preamble in which nearly every word in Webster's dictionary has been utilized. The petition provides that the Public Printer is to spell in the future in accordance with the 24 rules of the philological societies of England and America, which are mainly the same as the phonetic rules which have been frequently recommended to Congress.

It is becoming a question of much interest as to whether the Bland sealgrage bill will be killed by a veto after it has passed both Houses, of which there is a fair prospect. It is argued that the bill is unconstitutional, and that the Kentucky members are supporting it. Others say that at the White House there is strong opposition to any financial legislation at the present time, and cite the recent message to Congress in reference to the repeal of the purchasing clause of the Sherman act.

Justice White will be sworn in March 5. He will at once be called upon to take part in the consideration of more important litigation than has greeted a new Justice in many years. For many weeks the court has been anxiously

awaiting a full bench, and in the meantime important cases have been fixed for hearing at such time as the new Justice should take his place on the bench. These cases were finally set for March 5, in the hope that a nomination and confirmation might be made by that time.

The records of the Supreme Court show that the accession of Justice White to the bench leaves New York State without a representative in the court for the first time since 1806, the only exception since the court was established. The exact succession from New York is as follows: John Jay (Chief Justice), 1789-1795; Brockholst Livingston, 1806-1823; Smith Thompson, 1823-1843; Samuel Nelson, 1845-1872; Ward Hunt, 1872-1883; Samuel Blatchford, 1882-1893.

There is talk in Supreme Court circles already regarding the judicial circuit to which Senator White will be assigned when he assumes his new office. It is considered likely that, instead of taking the Northern circuit, which was held by the late Justice Blatchford, the new Justice will be given the Southern circuit, which embraces the Gulf States, on account of his knowledge of the Napoleonic Code. Many cases before the courts of the Southern circuit are dependent upon this code, and Senator White's knowledge of the local practice would prove particularly advantageous.

Senator Charles J. Faulkner, of the Executive Democratic Congressional Committee, has appointed the following Senators and Members, who, together with the officers of the Committee, will constitute the Executive Committee: Senators James M. Jones, S. M. White, John L. Mitchell, James Smith, and Samuel P. Fiske, and Representatives James P. Pigott, William McAllester, W. D. Byrum, Benton McMillin, Thomas C. Rye, Justin R. Whitling, John T. Heard, Joseph Wheeler, William A. Jones, and W. S. Forman. The full committee met on Tuesday afternoon at 4 o'clock. At this meeting a plan of campaign was discussed, and arrangements made for the selection of a campaign committee to take immediate charge of the work.

Once a year in the Senate Washington's Farewell Address is read by one of the Senators there, and listened to with more or less attention by his fellows. The President pro tem is the man, Senator Hoar was the originator of the idea three years ago. This was that Senator Ingalls arose one Washington's Birthday and with his sonorous tones filled the Senate Chamber with the words of the immortal Father of his Country. Last year Mr. Manderson performed this duty. This time it was Senator Harris's part, but that gentleman declined, and Senator Martin, of Kansas, was selected as the most fitting person to read the address. Strange to say, Senator Hoar did not appear in the Chamber during the reading.

Success sometimes is a thing exasperating. When a man has worked hard for a thing and gets it, but gets it in a way he cannot conveniently make use of it, it is enough to cause him to turn away. Mr. Luke, a constituent of Representative Elihu, of Illinois, has yearned to be a Postmaster for some time past, but he has particular preferences as to the town wherein he lives, Nashville, Ill. Imagine the delightful situation in which Mr. Luke found himself last week when he heard of his nomination by the Postoffice Department to be, by a peculiar mistake, Postmaster of Nashville, Iowa. The Department did not find out the mistake until Mr. Luke had been confirmed as Postmaster of the wrong town.

During these exciting days in the House, when so much has depended upon the correctness of the roll-call, Clerk Hoofar has had two volunteer assistants. One of them is Mr. Reed and the other is Mr. Tracy, the New York Democrat, who has been leading the legislative fight. As the clerk would begin to call the roll these two gentlemen would seat themselves at their desks, and throughout the 30 or 40 minutes that the names were being called, patiently check off the members who answered. These gentlemen have not as yet discovered any errors, except possibly the recording of Mr. Bryan's name the other day after that gentleman had gone to Chicago, but they have learned a great deal. They have found out how difficult it is in the noise and confusion to determine whether a member has voted or not, and that their allies are not always as correct as the one kept by the clerk.

The passage of private pension bills is not progressing very rapidly this session. Friday night in the evening set apart weekly for this duty. Last Friday night of the gentleman of the House only half a hundred made their appearance. Here Mr. Buckley Kilgore's opportunity for a whack at the veteran. So he raised the point of no quorum, and legislation was blocked. Members with private pension bills are making anxious inquiries whether Kilgore intends to establish a principle and continue demanding a quorum Friday nights; there is seldom more than one member interested in a bill, the combined forces of those interested in bills of like nature will not constitute a quorum, and other members are not inclined to sit through an evening session to transact business in which they are not interested. Mr. Kilgore says there will have to be a quorum to pass pension bills. "I do not believe in most of these private bills anyway. Most pensions which are deserved can be secured through the Pension Office."

The Spanish claims against the United States, which the Spanish Minister is said to have called to his Government are advancing toward adjustment by reason of the admission of their justice, are so old that they are identified with the early existence of this Government. They arose through an invasion of Florida by the American army about the beginning of this century, when Florida was a Spanish province. The troops seized or destroyed some personal property of Spanish subjects, who after the cession of Florida took up their residence in Cuba, declining to give allegiance to the new flag. In the treaty of 1819 negotiated between Spain and the United States an article was included providing for the settlement of the damages sustained by these Spaniards, and it is from this the claims have a standing. Several payments have been made from time to time, and the amount now involved amounts to nearly a million of dollars.

Some remarkable propositions come to the Committee on Ways and Means from people in various parts of the country as to the best means of meeting the Government deficiency. One man urges a tax of \$10 on each baseball or football club, and an additional \$100 for every game played. Another proposes to reduce Government officials' salaries 10 per cent. until the hard times are over. Another proposition is to impose a heavy internal revenue tax on revolvers, dirks, and other weapons used in bodily violence. It is proposed by one writer to levy a tax of \$100 a head on immigrants coming to this country to work. Threatening postal cards have been sent by a gentleman of anarchistic proclivities, adorned with a big seal, written in red ink, and expressing the avowed purpose of killing each member of the committee.

Representative Everett, of Massachusetts, is a mover for Civil Service Reform. He has called up a bill in committee which was introduced by Representative Andrew in the 53d Congress, authorizing the extension of the system of non-partisan appointments to all classes of Executive officers, except those whose appointments require Senatorial confirmation. His idea is to have laborers in the Government service placed under the Civil Service laws. The number of men who would have been placed in the classified service by the Andrew bill in 1892 was nearly 22,000, of which number some 10,000 were under the War Department, and nearly 8,000 on the Navy Department rolls engaged in the Navy-yards of the country.

"This is certainly melancholy. Moreover, it is unique, and, worst of all, it is in contravention of the commonly accepted legal doctrine that silence gives consent." Thus Thomas B. Reed commented upon the latest Democratic plan for developing a quorum. The most striking feature of this plan is that after those present but not voting have been recorded there must be a majority of affirmative votes over the other two classes; that is, over the negatives and those present but not voting. Mr. Reed added: "This would be a parliamentary monstrosity, the like of which has never come under my observation. But I am not surprised," he continued, with that air of material resignation which so pricks the members on the other side; "I am not surprised at anything they do. The plan would deprive members of their constitutional rights by placing the construction of a 'nay' upon their silence. But we must bear with them a little longer. Most of them will not be here long."

"There is one thing I like about the West," said J. C. Harlan, of Indiana, the other day, "and that is the way in which its people hang together. I have had this lovely trait forcibly brought to mind during my three days' stay in Washington. The men from New York do not seem to care where each other hails from. The men from Massachusetts pass by one another without so much as a nod. The same is true of the Washington visitors from any one of the Eastern or Middle States. But the men from the West! Why, watch a fellow from Indiana go down the avenue. In a little while he will find another man from Indiana. Then they take a drink and ask the barkeeper for the latest news from Posey County, and the Terre Haute quotations on hoop-poles. Then, like Thackeray and his friend, who had finished an excellent dinner in a small Parisian cafe, they look at one another and they love one another. And this is equally true of Montana, Dakota, Wisconsin, and Texas men."

The prospect of the discontinuance of the Agricultural Experiment Stations is alarming the farmers. Last week Col. J. H. Brigham, of Ohio, addressed the House Committee on Agriculture. He said that an Experiment Station is essentially an educational institution, and its best service to the farmer is to be looked for, not in single brilliant discoveries, but in such an increase of tested and accurate knowledge as shall enable the farmer to conduct his business more intelligently and with greater profit. Reviewing the scope of the Experiment Stations, he showed that they had dealt with the natural sciences, such as soil, fertilizers, plant and stock diseases, entomology, dairying, technology, agriculture, engineering, and statistics. Valuable work was done by them in these lines, particularly on the subjects of stock-raising and dairying. Such work could not be done by individual farmers, because they lack time, scientific education necessary for it, and their business is not on a large enough scale. Other nations, he showed, do more than the United States in this line.

The Senate of the present Congress has broken the record for obstinate contests over Presidential nominations. The first fight was on the nomination of Van Alen as Minister to Italy, and was won by the Administration. After a protracted struggle, the nominee was confirmed Oct. 20, only to resign later on. Next came the attack on Hornblower, resulting in his rejection on Jan. 15. The Committee on Commerce was next supported by the Senate Jan. 17, in the rejection of J. Scott Harrison, nominated to be Surveyor of Customs for Kansas City, Mo., both the Missouri Senators opposing the Executive. On the same day Cape Elice nominated be Collector of Internal Revenue for the Fourth New York District, against whom Senator Vance made a fight, was withdrawn, he having previously declined the appointment in order to restore harmony. His successor, Mr. Carter, was promptly confirmed. Against F. M. Simmons, nominated for the other North Carolina District, Senator Vance, assisted by the Republicans, is waging a relentless war, with the probability that the nominee will be rejected or forced to withdraw. On Feb. 13 Benjamin Lenthier, nominated to be Consul at Sherbrooke, Canada, was rejected, to be followed three days later by the rejection of Wheeler H. Peckham in the second bout over the Supreme Court vacancy.

There was recently introduced in the Iowa Legislature by Mr. Nijler (Democrat of Lee) a joint resolution that reads: "Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa (the Senate concurring), That soldiers of the Union army during the late war who have received an honorable discharge, are, in the interest of justice, patriotism, and humanity, entitled to a service pension of \$1 per month during their natural lives."

Provided, That where persons are receiving a pension for injuries or other disabilities received in the army service which is more than \$8 per month, they shall not receive a service pension in addition to the pension for injury or other disability, and that persons receiving a pension for injuries or other disabilities incurred in the army service shall not receive a service pension of \$8 per month during their natural lives.

Resolved, That a copy of the foregoing resolution be certified by the Secretary of the State to the Governor of the State, and sent to the Senators and Representatives in Congress from Iowa, and that they be requested to procure, if possible, the passage of a bill to carry out the provisions of the foregoing resolution.

**LONG VS. LOCHREN.**  
The arguments on the petition for an injunction against Lochren brought by Judge Charles L. Long to prevent further proceedings in the Pension Bureau for the reduction of his pension from \$72 per month to \$50 per month, were concluded last week in Equity Court No. 1 before Judge Cox. Assistant Attorney-General Whitney, who was speaking the day before when the court adjourned, continued his argument for the Commissioner. He said that Judge Long's wounds were not of the character which would prevent him from performing the duties of a member of the Supreme Court of Michigan, while he made stump-speeches and ran as a candidate for Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic. The court had no right to interfere with Commissioner Lochren, as he was acting wholly in matters which were for his discretion. Judge Long would appeal from the Commissioner's order, but he could not ask the interference of a court of equity.

Commissioner Lochren, who has been present during the whole of the hearing, supplemented the remarks of the Assistant Attorney-General by stating that if Judge Long was correct in his contention, then Congress and the courts of law had no power to interfere with a pension which would prevent him from performing the duties of a member of the Supreme Court of Michigan, while he made stump-speeches and ran as a candidate for Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic. The court had no right to interfere with Commissioner Lochren, as he was acting wholly in matters which were for his discretion. Judge Long would appeal from the Commissioner's order, but he could not ask the interference of a court of equity.

Mr. Hopkins answered these statements by declaring that Judge Long's disabilities were sufficient warrant for the examination of his condition to determine whether he was entitled to an increase. His closing words were in strong arraignment of the policy pursued by the Commissioner in granting pensions to the old veterans who had fought to preserve the Nation. Judge Cox took the case under advisement.

**PENSIONERS ORDER REVOKED.**  
The Assistant Secretary of the Interior has approved the recommendation of the Commissioner of Pensions that the pension vouchers be modified by the elimination of the fourth paragraph, which relates to the execution of vouchers by the United States Pension Agents, for the reason that it is believed to be prejudicial to the best interests of pensioners. The objectionable paragraph which read: "Such a statement is to be made by the Pension Agent in person, the same rule shall apply, except that neither the Pension Agent nor any clerk employed by him shall appear as a witness in either the voucher or the duplicate receipt."

The revocation of the paragraph will result in the continuance of the old practice of making payments to pensioners in person, and permits the pension agent or his clerks to attest the signatures to vouchers and receipts for pension. Among recent rulings by Assistant Secretary Reynolds in pension claims are the following: "The Government may reimburse itself for money fraudulently obtained and erroneously paid on a pension under the old law, from the pension granted under the act of June 27, 1890. When an attorney files a completed claim within the year allowed a former attorney, and the claim is adjudicated within that year, the evidence thus filed inures to the benefit of the pensioner, and the claimant is not bound to have completed the claim within the allotted time, and the attorney filing such complete evidence has no title to a fee."

**ARMY AND NAVY.**  
There is already a great deal of talk about supplying the Kruppian places, and several projects have been broached that may find their way to Congress. One contemplates the construction of a magnificent battleship worthy to perpetuate the name of the Kaiser on the Naval lists. Another project is to build two or three light-draft gunboats about the size of the Petrel, now doing service in the Philippine Islands.

The President has informed members of Congress who have approached him on the subject that he proposed, so far as possible, to appoint to the Army and Navy offices as candidates at large, and not as representatives of States.

It is expected that the first battleship built for the new Navy will go to sea for a preliminary trial of her engines and her seagoing qualities with the new machinery. The first of three battleships authorized in 1890 the Indiana will be the first to dip her bows in salt water, but the Massachusetts will come along shortly, and the Oregon next. The largest of all, the Iowa, will be one year behind the smaller vessels.

The House Committee on Naval Affairs has agreed not to report in favor of authorizing the construction of another battleship, as it would not be necessary to make any appropriation at this session, because the work of preparing the plans and letting the contract would take up considerable time. But the President, it is said, did not favor over the Navy's advance. For the first time in many years Congress at the long session will pass an appropriation bill without making any provision for an increase in the Navy. It is possible that the Senate may amend the House bill, but it is doubted if the result will be otherwise than now.

There is considerable rivalry between the various regiments of the Army just at present as to which shall first be supplied with the new service rifle. The first lot of the Krag-Jorgensen 24-caliber magazine gun will be turned out from the Springfield Armory about the 1st of March, and naturally every regiment is anxious to have the honor to be the first equipped with the new arm. It is believed that in the department of the Department will be guided by the target record of the regiment. With the guns there will also be issued a lot of new smokeless powder cartridges. Eventually the new rifle will be turned out at the rate of 4,000 a month.

Capt. Paul St. Clair Murphy has been appointed by Col. Heywood, of the Marine Corps, as Captain of the Marine Barracks at San Francisco. Capt. Murphy has recently been on duty at the Fillette inquiry in Boston. He assumed command March 1. Secretary Herbert has nearly completed the draft of a bill which would amend the act of March, and naturally every regiment is anxious to have the honor to be the first equipped with the new arm. It is believed that in the department of the Department will be guided by the target record of the regiment. With the guns there will also be issued a lot of new smokeless powder cartridges. Eventually the new rifle will be turned out at the rate of 4,000 a month.

Service Pensions.  
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## The "Better-Half."

Browning is pretty generally considered deep and metaphysical beyond common ken—an idea fostered by the Browning Societies, who find material for most ponderous reasonings and heavy essays in his poems. In consequence, the poet has always been somewhat neglected by the people who find so much to enjoy in Shakespeare, Wordsworth, Tennyson, Longfellow, and Whitlir. Yet Browning has said things that flash right into one's consciousness, perfectly understood, always to be remembered and to be used again and again in appreciating the beauty that life holds for us. Surely one can comprehend this:

"Oh to be in England now that April's there,  
And whose wakes in England see, some morning,  
unwary,  
Round the lowest boughs and the brushwood sheaf  
Round the elm-tree bole are in tiny line,  
While the chaffinch sings on the orchard bough  
In England's春天. And after April, when May follows  
And the white-throat builds, and all the swallows!  
Hark, where my blossomed pear-tree in the  
Lawn to the field and scatter on the clover  
Blossoms and dew drops—at the bent spray's edge—  
That's the wise thrush; he sings each song twice  
over  
Lest you should think he never could recapture  
That first fine careless rapture."

Anyone who knows where the violet beds are, who has ever watched for the blossoms in the early Spring, hoping every day to find at least one little purple flower that has come out to open the season, has been surprised to find some day the ground covered with them, all the flowers blossoming out at once in a great purple cloth, and he can appreciate the lines:

"Such a starved bank of moss  
Till that May morn,  
Blue ran the flash across:  
Violets were born.  
And violet lovers all must cherish:  
"Why shouldst thou pause—eyes that laugh—  
Bearing beauty's prize  
From violets—eyes that dream."  
And the daintiest of little love verses:  
"The moth's kiss first  
Kiss me as if you made believe  
You were not sure, this eve,  
How my face, your flower, had passed  
Its petals up, so here and there  
You know it, till I know again  
Who wants me, and wide open I burst."

"The bee's kiss now!  
Kiss me as if you entered gay  
My heart at some noonday,  
A bud that dares not disallow  
The claim, so all is rendered up,  
And passively is shattered out  
Over your head to sleep I bow."

In Evelyn Hope there are many beautiful things. After reading the poem over once or twice, to swing into the thought of it, it seems most exquisitely words. The little descriptions: "Why your hair was amber, I shall divine,  
At your mouth, for you gave a gemstone's red—  
The good stars met in your forehead's dew,  
Made of your spirit, fire and dew."  
In one stanza we get a glimpse of the breadth and power of his thought:

"Great to gain as might to make,  
And creates the love to reward the love;  
I claim you still, for my own love's sake:  
"Delayed it may be for more lives yet,  
Through worlds I shall traverse not a few;  
Much it is to love, much to forget,  
Ere the time be come for taking you."

The question that is agitating the girls just now is, "What kind of jackets will we have to wear with short skirts this year?" The Eton jacket was about played out last Summer, and has no desire to return to the field in blue or black serge after having enjoyed a long Winter of distinction made up in the finest hued, beading, braids, jet, or fur. The close-fitting, sleeveless coat, with skirts slightly flaring, seems to be a favorite, and will probably be reproduced in serge of every quality, from the heavy, dark-blue storm serge to the slaziest, dingiest, cheapest stuff. These coats will not have the numerous ruffles and lapels that have attached themselves to the Winter garments.

Shirt waists for the Spring and Summer wear promise to be much like those for last Summer. The long, straight cut has grown so popular that probably the turned-back one will be only rarely seen. The standing collar, rolled away slightly in front, are becoming more generally liked, but the turn-over collar still holds its own with men and women both. Black satin ties, tied in a short, square, butterfly bow, are most stylish for wear with short waists. They are tied with wide, soft, folded band around the collar.

The huge incrovable bows seen occasionally are made of black moire trimmed with a row or two of insertion and a ruffle of lace. The bows are tied with short, square loops, and long, loosely-hanging ends.

One economical woman found she could manufacture a fine bow from an old black moire ash she had. The ends were quite fresh, and she manufactured hers with a sewed-up bow. Properly, it is entirely "well." It takes a strip of ribbon 12 inches wide and two-and-a-quarter yards long. It is passed twice around the neck before being tied; all of which takes quite a knack to accomplish gracefully.

The Spring dress pictured has a gray silk jacket with flaring skirt, a plain, gray cloth skirt, vest of fine white cloth gathered into straight collar and belt and lapels of heavy white lace.

Black moire will be fashionable for sleeves and trimmings.

Broad Alston bows are used to trim hats, but are quite as often put in the back as in the front nowadays.

Granadines will be stylish and serviceable for the coming season. Elaborate ones are quite costly and gorgeous, but the same ironed plain granadines can be found as of yore.

## TREES AND PLANTS.

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An old writer says: "To make an entirely beautiful woman it would be necessary to take the head from Greece, the bust from Austria, the feet from Hindostan, the shoulders from Italy, the bearing from Spain, and the complexion from England."

No woman need expect to have a bright, clear complexion if she sleeps in a warm room.

Women who wear artificial violets pinned to the coat-lapels or muff self themselves with the seal of the utterly commonplace.

The Midwinter Fair. The attendance at the Midwinter Exposition at San Francisco continues to average between 8,000 and 10,000 per day, and everybody is correspondingly encouraged in the belief that this fair will realize the most sanguine expectation in regard to its financial success. In proportion to the amount of money invested, the attendance thus far has greatly surpassed that accorded the Columbian Exposition during the first month of its existence, and at the same ratio of increase which was noticeable at Chicago, there is no doubt that the attendance at the Midwinter Exposition before its close will surpass the fondest dreams of its most enthusiastic boomers.

This excellent variety is distinguished from all others by its large stiff stalks, as shown in the engraving, standing upright, and forming a single upright stem, abundantly of large, bright red tomatoes, very early and entirely free from rot; the leaves are very early and of a dark green color, almost black, making the plant very ornamental in appearance. **THE MANSFIELD TOMATO** A mammoth variety, growing from 8 to 10 feet in height. From 10 to 12 large, round, red tomatoes on a single plant. **FINCH'S EVERGREEN CUCUMBER** A very handsome variety of cucumbers, growing from 10 to 12 inches in length, and 2 to 3 inches in diameter, and of a dark green color, growing from 10 to 12 inches in height. **GENUINE SUREHEAD CABBAGE** It will head and always ready to head. Very uniform in size, firm and in texture, excellent in quality, and a reliable, good keeper. **FINCH'S PERFECT LETTUCE** The finest variety in the world. Does not head but grows in a flat, and is a single upright stem, and the plants which are always very crisp and tender. **FIVE CINNAMON VINES FREE** This is a new and beautiful variety of Cinna-mon vines, growing from 10 to 12 inches in height, and of a dark green color, growing from 10 to 12 inches in height. **FRANK FINCH (Box Z), CLYDE, N.Y.** Frank Finch is perfectly reliable and trustworthy.—Ed

**GREAT SPECIAL OFFERS!** For a thirty-day trial, we will send you 10 packets of our finest Flower Seeds, and 10 packets of our finest Fruit Seeds, and 10 packets of our finest Vegetable Seeds, and 10 packets of our finest Ornamental Seeds, and 10 packets of our finest Garden Seeds, and 10 packets of our finest Field Seeds, and 10 packets of our finest Nut Seeds, and 10 packets of our finest Flowering Seeds, and 10 packets of our finest Fruit Seeds, and 10 packets of our finest Vegetable Seeds, and 10 packets of our finest Ornamental Seeds, and 10 packets of our finest Garden Seeds, and 10 packets of our finest Field Seeds, and 10 packets of our finest Nut Seeds, and 10 packets of our finest Flowering Seeds, and 10 packets of our finest Fruit Seeds, and 10 packets of our finest Vegetable Seeds, and 10 packets of our finest Ornamental Seeds, and 10 packets of our finest Garden Seeds, and 10 packets of our finest Field Seeds, and 10 packets of our finest Nut Seeds, and 10 packets of our 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